

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 17-522V

Filed: December 26, 2017

UNPUBLISHED

WILLIAM WILLINGHAM,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Causation-In-Fact; Pneumococcal
Conjugate Vaccine; Shoulder Injury
Related to Vaccine Administration
(SIRVA)

William E. Cochran, Jr., Black McLaren Jones Ryland & Griffie, P.C., Memphis, TN , for petitioner.

Mallori Browne Openchowski, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On April 13, 2017, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleged that he suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) resulting from the pneumococcal conjugate (Prevnar 13) vaccine he received on April 25, 2016. Petition at 1, ¶ 2. Petitioner further alleged that he received the vaccine in the United States, continues to suffer the residual effects of his injury more than six months after vaccination, and has never received compensation

¹ Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

for his injury alleged as vaccine caused. *Id.* at ¶¶ 2, 14-15. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On December 22, 2017, respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, respondent "believes that petitioner's alleged injury is consistent with a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA") and that it was caused-in-fact by the Prevnar 13 vaccine he received on April 25, 2016." *Id.* at 5. Respondent further agrees that "based on the record as it now stands, petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act". *Id.*

In view of respondent's position and the evidence of record, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey

Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master